

NEW LIGHT AT ASHTABULA HARBOR, OHIO.

L E T T E R

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

RECOMMENDATION AS TO A NEW LIGHT AT ASHTABULA
HARBOR, OHIO.

JANUARY 13, 1902.—Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce
and ordered to be printed.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, January 10, 1902.

SIR: This Department has the honor to state, at the instance of the Light-House Board, that the two breakwaters now being built at Ashtabula Harbor, Ohio, by the War Department, are so nearly completed that early measures should be taken to provide lights to indicate their position, especially as the temporary lights now maintained by the breakwater contractors will be continued only until completion of these structures.

The range lights which now mark the entrance to the harbor are no longer sufficient in power, and they have not such structural strength as would warrant an attempt to move them out to a new pier head in the lake where the exposure is much greater than at their present site. The new pier heads are built up above the water, are of massive concrete of great strength, and are provided with pipes for water supply and drainage. Hence each offers a suitable and safe foundation for a well-built light and fog-signal structure.

The Light-House Board at its session on January 6, 1902, considered all the papers before it relative to establishing a new light and fog-signal station on one of these new pierheads at the entrance to Ashtabula Harbor. It then decided that a light-house ought to be built on the new west pierhead, either of masonry or iron, that it should be supplied with a duplicate set of oil engines with air compressors for operating a siren, and that the existing front light ought to be trans-

ferred to the outer position in the proposed new structure. This proposed light-house will then constitute the front light of the range, and the present front tower, raised sufficiently to adapt it for service, will constitute the rear range light for guiding vessels into this harbor.

The Light-House Board considers that these proposed improvements are much needed by the commerce of Lake Erie and that they should be provided with the least practicable delay. The board estimates that the erection of a new light-house, the raising of the present front tower, the removing of the present rear beacon, and the providing of the necessary oil engines for running the fog signal will cost about \$18,000, and it recommends that an appropriation of this amount be made therefor.

This Department concurs with the board as to the need for establishing a durable modern light and fog-signal station on the new pier head at the end of the west breakwater, at Ashtabula, Ohio, and in the recommendation that an appropriation of \$18,000 be made for that purpose.

Respectfully,

L. J. GAGE,
Secretary.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

O